

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1082

By Rose

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Joseph Arthur King, Jr.,  
of Covington.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Joseph Arthur King, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, Joseph King was an exemplary educator and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, born in Marion, Alabama, on August 30, 1936, Mr. King was the only child of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Arthur King, Sr.; he grew up in Bessemer, Alabama, and attended Cannon Baptist Church, where he accepted Christ at an early age; and

WHEREAS, Joseph King converted to the Catholic faith during his time at Snow Hill Institute in Snow Hill, Alabama; he was a member of the football, basketball, and track and field teams and graduated in 1953; and

WHEREAS, Mr. King received his Bachelor of Science and Master of Education degrees in Health, Physical Education and Recreation from Tennessee State University (TSU) and completed postgraduate studies at Bethel College, Cumberland University, and the University of Memphis; and

WHEREAS, an educator for fifty-five years, Joseph King began his teaching career in 1957 at Burrell Slater High School in Florence, Alabama, where he spent three years before moving to Lexington and teaching at Montgomery High School; and

WHEREAS, in 1963, Mr. King and his family moved to Covington, and he began his storied career with Tipton County Schools, teaching at Sadler Elementary School, George Ellis High School, Munford High School, and Covington High School until his retirement in 2011; and

WHEREAS, Joseph King was an important part of his community and his profession, having served as president of the Tipton County Education Association, president of the Tipton County Chapter of the TSU Alumni Association, and Mid-South regional vice president of the TSU Alumni Association; and

WHEREAS, he was also a member of the National Education Association, Tennessee Education Association, Tipton County/Covington Retired Teachers Association, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated, and Knights of Columbus; and

WHEREAS, Joseph King was honored to be inducted into the Burrell Slater Athletic Hall of Fame in 2017; and

WHEREAS, Mr. King was an active and devout member of Saint Alphonsus Catholic Church and the Catholic Diocese of Memphis, which he served faithfully for many years; and

WHEREAS, he was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Joseph King enjoyed the loving companionship of his devoted wife of sixty-one years, Josephine T. King; he is lovingly remembered by his children, Christopher (Traci) King, Angela (Barry) Nixon, Kim King, and Carol King; his grandchildren, Jennifer King, Brianna King, Kristen Nixon, Brian King, Joseph A. King III, Phillip Bradley, Nicholas Nixon, and Benjamin Nixon; and a host of extended family, dear friends, and former colleagues and students; and

WHEREAS, Mr. King was preceded in death by his parents and his oldest child, Randall A. King; and

WHEREAS, Joseph King leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Joseph Arthur King, Jr., reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. King.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.